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Algeria	450 Da.	Iraq	115 Bush. Orient	8,000 Rials
Australia	25 L.	Iraq	MS. 220	175 Esc.
Bahrain	1,070 Dinar	Indy	1,000 U.S. Cents	450 Rials
Belgium	50 BEF	Jordan	450 Frs. Rep. of Ireland	70 P.
Canada	CS 1.95	Kenya	Sh. 20,000	South Africa
Cyprus	CS 0.80	Kuwait	500 Frs.	Spain
Danmark	1000 Dkr.	Liberia	800 S.K.	Turkey
Egypt	EE 1,000	Luxembourg	100,000	U.S. Dollars
Finland	100 Markka	Morocco	100 T.	Venezuela
France	7,000 F.	Netherlands	75 Cents	U.S.A.
Germany	2,700 DM.	Morocco	800 DA.	U.S.A.
Great Britain	CS 1.65	Netherlands	100 P.	U.S. Dollars
Iceland	110 Kr.	Norway	800 NOK	Yugoslavia

Court Blocks Effort By Pretoria to Stop A Paper's Press Run

By William Claiborne
Washington Post Service

JOHANNESBURG — The police entered the editorial offices of The Star on Tuesday and tried to seize editions that carried an advertisement urging public support of persons detained under the state of emergency. But the police were blocked from seizing the paper by a provincial Supreme Court ruling.

Emergency press restrictions prohibit the publication of appeals for the release of detainees.

The afternoon Star, published in English, is South Africa's largest circulation newspaper.

The court ruled that the newspaper, which had deleted from the advertisement a specific call for the release of detainees, had not violated the emergency regulations. It gave the police until March 24 to

show cause why the order should not become permanent.

After deleting the prohibited phrases from the advertisement, the newspaper incorporated a tacit appeal for the release of detainees in a front-page editorial.

In a court hearing, the Star's editor, Harvey Tyson, criticized the police action. He said that the newspaper had sought to ensure that the advertisement, bought by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, fell within the law.

"More than that, we believe our reputation is at stake," Mr. Tyson said in court. "Not once in 80 years have we been stopped from reaching our readers. We believe we would lose readers if we couldn't give a daily, reliable service."

In a front-page comment, the Star observed that for more than 700 years, since the drafting of the Magna Carta, Western civilization had accepted the principle that no person should be incarcerated indefinitely without a trial by his peers.

"But suddenly in our country even the right to question imprisonment without trial is now threatened," the editorial said. "How have we reached this kind of totalitarian action?"

"How can any fairminded person, even in a state of emergency — even in a state of war — support the idea that no one can call for the release of detainees?" it continued.

To what depths have some so-called representatives of nationalism sunk?"

When the police appeared at the Star's office Tuesday morning with an order to seize any editions containing the advertisement, Mr. Tyson said, he told them that the editors, acting on the advice of lawyers, had deleted two sentences from the advertisement and believed that it no longer violated emergency censorship regulations.

Star staff members said that a security policeman waited in the pressroom for the first copy of the Star to come off the presses while another left to consult senior officers of the Afghan conflict said Tuesday.

The newspaper then began printing all of its early editions — with the amended advertisement — while Mr. Tyson and the lawyers went to the Supreme Court to apply for a restraining order.

The original advertisement, which called for the release of detainees and the observance of a "National Detainees Day" on Thursday, first appeared last week in the anti-government City Press newspaper. The police then warned

SEE PAPER, Page 2

Syria has assured Iran it will not disarm Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon. Page 2.

Scientists say skin cancer is increasing in the United States because of depletion of the Earth's ozone layer. Page 6.

SEE PAPER, Page 2

ARTS/LEISURE

Hebe Dorsey takes a closer look at Milan's rising fashion star, Romeo Gigli. Page 7.

BUSINESS/FINANCE

Japan's trade surplus rose sharply in February, reflecting a surge in automobile shipments to Europe. Page 9.

U.S. Seeking Openings to North Korea

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The State Department has authorized U.S. diplomats to conduct substantive conversations with North Korean officials at receptions, parties and other "neutral" locations.

Previously, U.S. officials said, diplomats who were approached by North Koreans were under orders to walk away or to restrict the conversation to social platitudes. A ban on formal, prearranged meetings remains in effect.

Officials portrayed the change as part of a broader effort to create an atmosphere conducive to direct talks between North and South Korea. China was urged to support that goal by Secretary of State George P. Shultz during meetings last week in Beijing.

The United States has asked China to encourage North Korea to take part in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul and to resume talks with South Korea on reunifying families divided during the Korean War. In addition, Washington wants to see North and South Korea open direct mail service and establish other contacts.

The new guidelines reportedly were contained in a directive sent Feb. 26 by the State Department to U.S. embassies around the world. An official said that no such conversations with North Koreans had been reported, but he thought the most likely places for them to occur would be Beijing, Cairo and Moscow.

The Chinese were informed last week of the shift in U.S. guidelines.



By Bob Paddock/Reuters

Differences Narrow in Afghan Talks

Compromise on Soviet Pullout Cited as Session Adjourns

By Thomas Netter
International Herald Tribune

GENEVA — Afghanistan and Pakistan have significantly narrowed their differences over a timetable for the withdrawal of about 120,000 Soviet troops supporting the Kabul government, the UN mediator at the Geneva talks on the Afghan conflict said Tuesday.

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stand that there has been a very significant narrowing down of the gap that existed before."

Diplomatic sources said both sides had compromised, with Afghanistan proposing that Soviet troops be withdrawn within 18 months of an agreement, and Pakistan proposing a seven-month period. Previously, Afghanistan and the Soviet Union had insisted on a four-year phased troop withdrawal, while Pakistan had proposed a schedule of three to four months.

There was no indication of Soviet intentions, which will be the determining factor any troop withdrawal. But Soviet officials have suggested in recent months that they would support a shortened timetable for the troop withdrawal.

The United States has consistently advocated an immediate troop withdrawal.

SEE AFGHAN, Page 2

Mr. Cordovez said he believed the gap dividing the two sides could be bridged in subsequent negotiations, and that he expected the foreign minister to return to Geneva in two months.

The narrowing of differences marks a further step forward in the often painfully slow process of finding a political settlement to the seven-year Afghan conflict. The negotiations, which began in 1982, have been slowed by what officials describe as "deep mutual suspicion" between the two sides.

Recently, however, the Soviet Union and Afghanistan have indicated they seek a political solution to the war. They announced a cease-fire beginning Jan. 15 and an unspecified timetable for withdrawal of the Soviet troops, and

have suggested a shortened timetable for withdrawal.

SEE AFGHAN, Page 2

what they're being told to do but he didn't say it easily."

He said recent national surveys show that awareness and concern about cholesterol among physicians and the public is at an all-time high.

The development of lovastatin, a fungal derivative, was started more than a decade ago at the Sanofi Drug Co. in Japan by Dr. Akira Endo.

Because the drug is easy to take, relatively inexpensive and highly effective at lowering cholesterol, Dr. Lenfant and others believe doctors will be inclined to prescribe it for many adults now recognized as having cholesterol levels that place them at high risk for developing coronary heart disease.

"Lovastatin will shape physicians' behavior," said Dr. Basil Kirkin, a specialist on atherosclerosis at the national institute. "Coming at a time when physicians are being urged to be more aggressive about cholesterol, it will allow them to do

SEE CHOLESTEROL, Page 2

The document allows for techniques of prenatal diagnosis so long as the embryo is not damaged and the purpose is not to then eliminate fetuses that are malformed or are found to have illnesses.

Therapeutic procedures are permitted on embryos as long as they are aimed at healing.

The document rejects any research efforts involving embryos that go beyond simple observation.

The document condemns the practice of experimenting on embryos created in the laboratory no matter what the research potential of such efforts might be.

"No objective," the document says, "even though noble in itself, such as a foreseeable advantage to science, to other human beings or to society, can in any way justify experimentation on living human embryos or fetuses, whether viable or not, either inside or outside the mother's womb."

Despite its opposition to test tube fertilization, the Vatican insists that embryos created in this way have a right to life that must be respected regardless of whether they are produced simply for research purposes or as part of an effort to create a child.

In addition to the right to life, the document argues that embryos have the right "to be conceived and to be born within marriage and to

See VATICAN, Page 2

Artificial Procreation Condemned by Vatican Doctrinal Statement Urges Governments to Intercede

By Roberto Suro
New York Times Service

ROME — The Vatican called on governments Tuesday to strictly regulate the artificial transmission of life and to enact laws prohibiting many common medical practices including surrogate motherhood and experimentation on living embryos.

In a major doctrinal statement the Roman Catholic Church also declared its moral opposition to virtually all forms of artificial insemination and embryo transfer, approving medical interference in human procreation only when it assists a married couple that has engaged in a "normal" sexual act.

Recent technological advances in biology, the Vatican warned, require the intervention of the political authorities and of the legislator, since an uncontrolled application of such techniques could lead to unforeseeable and damaging consequences for civil society.

The document denounces as evil a number of specific practices such as the freezing of embryos, efforts to create human beings entirely through laboratory methods including cloning and the use of genetic manipulation to predetermine the qualities of a child, such as its sex.

Much of the document's moral argument rests on the church's teachings that procreation must take place in the context of marriage and that human life is sacred from the moment of conception.

The 40-page statement is titled "Instruction on Respect for Human Life in Its Origins and on the Dignity of Procreation — Replies to Certain Questions of the Day."

The document, which was approved by Pope John Paul II, involved almost two years of work by the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican's chief guardian and promoter of Catholic orthodoxy.

The congregation is headed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

Given that science is constantly developing new techniques in the field of procreation, the statement purposely leaves open the possibility that new and acceptable methods may emerge to help a married couple produce a child through the conjugal act. Vatican officials said Tuesday.

Vatican officials described the document as containing significant developments in the church's views on three broad areas. They are the relationship between civil and moral law, the challenges posed by modern science and the nature of human sexuality. As such, the officials said the document provides the most complete expression to date of some of the major themes of John Paul's tenure.

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The changes, viewed as the French equivalent of the "Big Bang" that deregulated the London stock market last fall, will ultimately break the monopoly held by Paris brokers over all operations of the Bourse.

The finance minister, Edouard Balladur, said the measures, which would be introduced before the National Assembly this spring, were necessary to make the Bourse competitive with the world's major financial centers.

But critics have said the market's future was constrained because it was in the hands of small, poorly capitalized brokers who did not have the resources to engage in efficient market-making.

Only individuals are permitted to own capital in brokerage house, and only French brokers may trade on the Bourse.

The proposed

House Democrats Unveil New Plan to Halt Unfair Trade

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Democrats in the House of Representatives unveiled sweeping trade legislation on Tuesday that attempts to crack down on unfair foreign trade practices by requiring the president to retaliate.

But in a concession to the Reagan administration, the proposal would give the president the option to refuse to take action if he believed that any counterretaliation might be triggered would be more harmful to the nation than the original trading offense.

It would leave the method of retaliation up to the president.

The Democratic chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Dan Rostenkowski of Illinois, said the success of any trade law reform "depends on whether our trading partners take us seriously."

Rostenkowski put forth the plan on behalf of himself and Sam M. Gibbons, Democrat of Florida, the chairman of the trade subcommittee.

Last year, the United States posted a record trade deficit of nearly \$170 billion, with the largest single portion, \$58 billion, resulting from the trade gap with Japan.

The bill addresses the problem of dealing with countries that have "excessive" trade surpluses with the United States, such as Japan, Taiwan, Korea and West Germany.

But it significantly modifies the provision that caused the administration the greatest concern last year.

The original version, put forth by Representative Richard A. Gephardt, Democrat of Missouri, would have required countries that had "excessive" trade surpluses with the United States and demonstrated a pattern of unfair trading practices to reduce their exports to the United States by 10 percent a year.

The new version drops the arbitrary percentage reduction and sets a six-month limit for negotiating an

end to unfair trade practices. If negotiations fail, the president would decide how to retaliate.

Representative Donald J. Pease, Democrat of Ohio, expressed concern that the new bill represents a "significant weakening" of last year's version, which passed overwhelmingly in the House last year but failed to go through the Senate.

However, several Republicans applauded the effort as a substantial improvement that addresses many, but not all, of the Reagan administration's trade concerns.

The administration, which has agreed to work with Congress on a trade bill this year, reversed its position of last year, condemned the Gephardt amendment as protectionist.

The U.S. trade representative, Clayton K. Yeutter, described his initial reaction to the proposal as "overall, very positive."

Mr. Yeutter, who discussed the proposal in a closed session with the panel, said, "Certainly, we have a long way to go on individual issues" but "we have advanced a very long way from a year ago."

He said he was "cautiously optimistic" about the prospects of producing a trade bill that would be acceptable to the administration.

The bill introduced Tuesday would also:

- Establish such violations of workers' rights as standard wages as an unfair trade practice subject to retaliation.

- Modify the procedure for industries hurt by imports to appeal for relief.

- Subject to civil penalties foreign manufacturers guilty of repeatedly "dumping" their products at below-market costs.

- Grant the administration as long as six years to negotiate new world trade rules under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade as long as it consulted closely with Congress. The administration had asked for a 10-year mandate.



LICENSED DECORATOR — Car license plates cover the garage wall of Dennis Sharp, a truck driver, in Pekin, Illinois. Mr. Sharp ran out of aluminum siding, so he finished the garage with the plates he had collected.

U.S., Soviet Start Draft of Missile Pact

United Press International

GENEVA — U.S. and Soviet arms negotiators began work Tuesday on drafting a treaty to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

Talks of a breakthrough in Geneva began on Feb. 28 when the Soviet Union dropped its insistence that President Ronald Reagan accept cuts on his Strategic Defense Initiative before progress could be made on medium-range missiles.

The proposal that emerged, mirrored in a U.S. counteroffer on Wednesday, would limit the Soviet Union to 100 warheads in Asia and restrict the United States to an equal number on medium-range missiles on American territory.

The special session on Intermediate Nuclear Forces, or medium-range weapons, is being held between formal rounds of the overall Geneva arms talks. The talks are now recessed.

U.S. and Soviet spokesmen said the medium-range missile negotiators would meet for about two weeks to start initial drafting of a treaty text.

In Washington, U.S. officials warned against expecting any quick agreement. "I don't think we're doing any good by trying to raise expectations," Max M. Kampelman, the main U.S. negotiator, said Monday. "We are not going to try to complete it by any specific date at the sacrifice of watching the small print in the treaty."

■ Support for ABM Treaty

Jeffrey Smith of The Washington Post reported from Washington:

Six former U.S. secretaries of defense voiced support for the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty on Monday and called for continued U.S. adherence to a "traditional," or narrow, interpretation.

The court ruled 6-3 on Monday that the standard should be only whether the aliens would be persecuted in their home countries.

It rejected the Reagan administration's position that to qualify for asylum, aliens must prove a "clear probability" that they would be killed, tortured or otherwise persecuted for their beliefs if returned to their home countries.

Immigration experts said the decision would help people who assert they are refugees from persecution, particularly from Central American countries such as El Salvador and Guatemala. In recent years, only a small percentage of asylum applications from people fleeing those countries have been granted.

Many church groups and other private organizations have accused the administration of denying asylum to refugees from Central America and elsewhere who are legally eligible for it. The administration has denied the assertions.

"It is a tremendously significant decision," said Ira J. Kurban, an immigration lawyer who is president-elect of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association. "It recognizes at least implicitly the difficulty that asylum applicants have in proving their claims, so more people will be eligible for asylum who should be eligible."

The ruling means that many people denied asylum under the previous standard will now be able to reopen their cases, immigration lawyers said. More than 11,000 legal aliens applied for asylum in the last fiscal year, the administration said in papers filed with the court.

The effect of the decision could be limited, the court noted, by the fact that the attorney general retains discretion to deny asylum, even to refugees who are legally eligible for it under the definition applied by the court.

The court said the government's position was contrary to the intent of the Refugee Act of 1980, which provides that aliens are eligible for asylum if they are unwilling to return to their home countries "because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion."

Justice John Paul Stevens, in the majority opinion, suggested that any applicant would be eligible for asylum if "persecution is a reasonable possibility."

Mr. Reagan concluded in 1985 that the permissive interpretation was legally correct, but he decided not to follow it now because of protests from Congress and U.S. allies.

The former defense secretaries opposing the proposal are Robert S. McNamara, Clark M. Clifford, Melvin R. Laird, Elliot Richardson, James R. Schlesinger and Harold Brown. They served under two Republican and three Democratic presidents from 1961 to 1981.

■ Weinberger's Request

Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger urged President Ronald Reagan to say in his nationally broadcast address on the Iran-contra affair last week that Mr. Weinberger and Secretary of State George P. Shultz were wrongly criticized by the Tower commission, according to sources, the Washington Post reported.

"I asked the committee to defer consideration of immunity for North and Poindexter," Mr. Walsh said after the meeting. When asked for the length of his requested delay, he said, "At least 90 days."

Under use immunity, testimony given by protected witnesses before Congress cannot be used against them unless it is corroborated by evidence gathered independently.

Mr. Walsh, whose formal title is independent counsel, said he would ask the special Senate committee headed by Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Democrat of Hawaii, for the same delay when he meets with its members on Wednesday.

The Tower board criticized both Mr. Shultz and Mr. Weinberger.

"Their obligation was to give the president their full support and continued advice with respect to the program or, if they could not in conscience do that, to so inform the president," the report said.

"Instead," the report said, "they simply distanced themselves from the march of events."

Mr. Shultz and Mr. Weinberger

are independent counsels to the House committee, planned to meet later Tuesday.

Mr. Hamilton has told Mr. Walsh he cannot wait until the prosecutor's criminal investigation is over, but has cautioned against moving to grant use immunity too quickly.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Hospitality Goes On, New Tax Rules or Not

When Congress restricted the tax deduction for business entertainment and meals last year, darkened theaters and shuttered restaurants were widely predicted. But so far, The New York Times reports, business people are continuing to spend about \$90 billion a year dining and dining customers, despite tax rules that permit only 80 percent of most such expenses to be deducted, instead of the full amount.

The bite is deeper than that because lower corporate income tax rates push up a company's real hospitality costs by 35 percent. For example, a \$200 bill for dinner and theater that used to cost \$108 after taxes now costs \$145.60.

But the bite goes on. "I was a little worried" about the new tax rules, said André Soltner, owner of Lutèce, one of Manhattan's most expensive restaurants. "But right now I am a little relieved. Business is as good as ever."

A. Gary Shilling, an economic consultant, said that most 1987 company budgets were set before the new tax rules were enacted.

"I think it will be a gradual shift," Mr. Shilling said. "It's a serious concern, but it's more in the 'to do' stage than in the 'done' stage."

Short Takes

No overall statute protects underground water in the United States. The Clean Water Act of 1972 has slowed or rolled back the pollution of lakes and rivers. But legislation to protect underground water would entail controls on land use, anathema to the Reagan administration. However,

Lee M. Thomas, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and a Reagan loyalist,

has reversed his position and is calling for a national program to protect ground water, the source

of about half the country's drinking water. It is increasingly being polluted by pesticides and toxic wastes.

Mr. Thomas told The

New York Times that he planned to take this up with the White House.

A master of science degree was revoked by the University of Michigan on the ground that its recipient faked his thesis. The student, Wilson Crook 3d, argued that a degree could not be revoked except by court order. A federal appeals court in Cincinnati disagreed, ruling 3-0 that the university "had the authority and power to revoke Crook's degree without going to court."

Mr. Crook got his degree in 1977. His thesis purported to describe a new mineral found on a Texas field trip, which he called "Texasite." University professors later concluded that "Texasite" was in fact synthetic and that Mr. Crook used fabricated data.

Jimmy Carter said in a recent speech, "I try not to be a racist and wouldn't call myself a racist, but I have feelings that border on it and that are embarrassing to me sometimes."

The former president recalled asking himself on

seeing television images of starving children in Africa, "How many of those little black kids does it take to equal one Amy?" referring to his daughter, "Fifteen, 20, 10, five?" he continued. "I think the answer is one, but it's hard for me to believe this." It was not Mr. Carter's first public confession: During his successful 1976 campaign for president he told a Playboy interviewer that he had "locked on a lot of women with lust" and had "committed adultery in my heart many times."

American University has named its gymnasium after Adnan Khashoggi. The institution in Washington has received several million dollars in gifts from the Saudi arms dealer. So before a basketball game with the U.S. Naval Academy, the students had balloons made bearing the legend, "Adnan's Army." University officials, sensitive about Mr. Khashoggi's role in the Iran arms sale affair, promptly stuck a pin in the idea, and the balloons did not appear at the game.

—ARTHUR HIGBEE

The governor, who said he had banned a Gazette columnist, John Kolbe, from his office because he considered Mr. Kolbe a "nonperson," added: "Every daily newspaper in the state endorsed a different candidate beside me. It's taking them a little time to get used to the idea that I was the people's choice."

In fact, Mr. Mecham was the choice of 40 percent of the voters in an election that was considered something of a political fluke in Arizona.

After upsetting Burton Barr, a well-known member of the Legislature, in the Republican primary election, Mr. Mecham was given little chance of winning the November election against Carolyn Warner, the Democratic candidate, until a second Democrat, Bill Schulz entered the race as an independent, splitting the Democratic vote.

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State Department officials tried to cast the resignation in the best possible light. "There are many democrats in the resistance effort," an official said. "Their efforts to achieve democracy will continue and the reform process Cruz started will continue."

Speaking by telephone from Costa Rica, Mr. Cruz said, "I remain a firm opponent of the present Sandinista regime and a backer of the democratic cause in Nicaragua. But in the end it is my conscience, and my responsibility as a citizen, to make a decision in accord with my family and friends. My fundamental desire is to leave."

Mr. Cruz publicly promised in Washington last month that he would remain in the rebel movement until the moment he felt genuine change was impossible. In a long and passionate letter of resignation made public Monday, Mr. Cruz said that moment had arrived.

"The time is up," he said. "I have given all that I can give."

He shared the direction of the rebel movement with two other officials, Adolfo Calero Portocarrero and Alfonso Robelo Callejas.

But Mr. Cruz, who represents the more politically liberal wing of the Nicaraguan exile community,

clashed repeatedly with the more politically conservative Mr. Calero and his followers.

Last month U.S. officials persuaded Mr. Calero to resign from the political directorate in an effort to convince Mr. Cruz that he should stay on and press for the reforms he said he wanted. But Mr. Calero maintained his powerful position as head of the main rebel army, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force.

Honduran Air Force Downs Cargo Plane

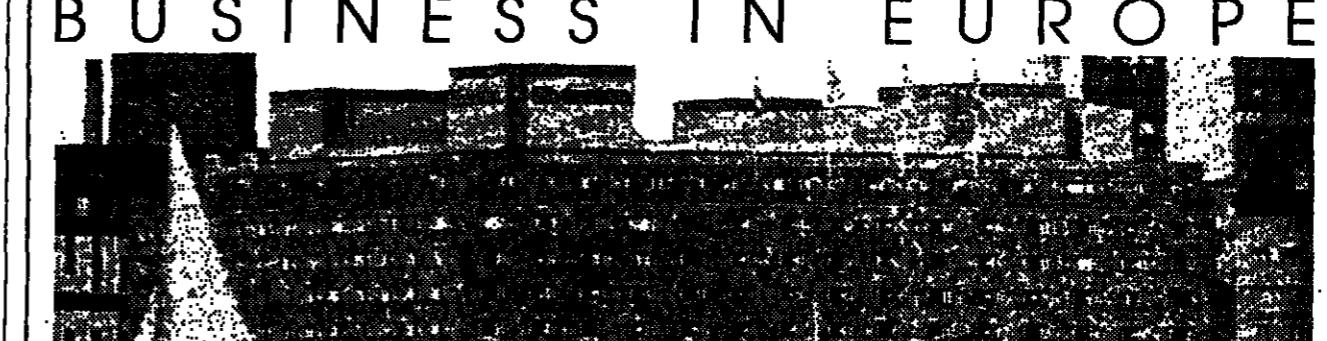
The Associated Press

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — The air force shot down an unidentified cargo plane "similar to a C-47" after it violated Honduran airspace on a flight that apparently came from Nicaraguan airspace, the military said Tuesday.

Nicaragua denied that the plane, which was shot down late Monday near the Honduran border with El Salvador, belonged to its air force.

In Washington, Pentagon sources said the plane did not appear to be part of the operation supplying Nicaraguan rebels.

BUSINESS IN EUROPE



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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

Pakistan Calls the Bluff

For years the United States has been trying to get Pakistan off its effort to develop a nuclear explosive, using persuasion, offers of patronage, conventional weaponry and nuclear power, and the leverage of aid. As Indians and Soviets have voiced increasing and increasingly menacing concern over Pakistan's progress, U.S. officials have told them to back off and leave it to Washington. But Islamabad has pressed on. Last fall, U.S. authorities leaked word of Pakistan's latest progress. Pakistan ignored the warning. Last month the American ambassador publicly warned of an aid cutoff as required by U.S. nonproliferation law. Pakistan responded by boasting of its bomb program's success.

Few American undertakings abroad have fared as poorly as the effort of successive administrations to deflect the Pakistanis from this pursuit. Warnings have not worked. Nor have strategic dialogue, suppliers' cooperation or superpower collaboration. Carrots have not worked; sticks have not worked. Why? Because Washington has always wanted to enjoy cooperation with Pakistan in other policy areas.

In the early 1970s there was the China opening; at the end of the '70s there was replacement of intelligence facilities lost in Iran; in the '80s there has been the support of the Afghan resistance. The United States has never made nonproliferation its first priority. The Pakistanis have always made proliferation

their first priority. They have thought they could have American patronage and the bomb, too — and so far they have been right. A desperate U.S. government beseeches Pakistan to sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty unilaterally, without a signature by archrival India. India has a nuclear capability — it has developed an explosive — but not a nuclear arsenal. A Pakistani signature would give President Reagan and Congress the kind of good-faith demonstration that U.S. nonproliferation law requires, and would help keep U.S. aid flowing to Pakistan. But Pakistan knows that an aid cutoff would affect not only its own security but also the Afghan resistance, an American favorite. It is calling the American nonproliferation bluff.

An extremely difficult decision faces President Reagan. But the United States cannot yield without a devastating loss of credibility on this issue and elsewhere. Senator John Glenn's suggestion of an aid suspension pending a policy review is useful — so long as the administration is prepared to hang tough. Nonproliferation is not some frivolous, idealistic cause that rightly yields in the pinch to other, more basic concerns. It bears directly on the first imperative of American foreign policy: to reduce the risks of nuclear war. It overwhelms any other American interests in Pakistan.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

South Korean Suspense

For the second time in a year, Secretary of State George Shultz has seen fit to visit South Korea to urge an early and orderly transition from military to elective rule. He is pushing a heavy stone uphill. South Korean social and economic systems are ready for democracy, but the country has a 40-year-old habit of tough-to-brutal rule by generals, and a student movement increasingly given to the profession of radical Marxism and the hurling of firebombs. There is a fuse burning on the Korean peninsula. An explosion that might be set off by either the generals or the students could produce upheaval.

The American advice is urgent and sound: Move carefully and surely toward democracy. On this trip, Mr. Shultz secured from President Chun Doo Hwan a fresh commitment to step down at the end of his term next February (he would be the first South Korean leader to leave peacefully) and to provide for his succession by elections. It is the second half of that commitment that raises the problems.

President Chun operates under heavy suspicion of wanting to install a mechanism for indirect elections so as to maintain the military's dominant political role. Opposition politicians prefer a mechanism for direct elections that they think would help them. Each side tugs at the United States to

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Let Soviet Jews Decide

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir wants the United States to stop giving special refugee status to Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union. At first glance, his reasons seem sensible. It would be politically easier for Soviet authorities to open the gates if Soviet Jews were headed for their presumed homeland. But past Soviet behavior belies this need for fig leaves. If the Kremlin wants to let Jews out, it knows how to open the doors without any fuss over their eventual destination.

The real effect of changing U.S. policy would be to make it harder for departing Soviet Jews to go anywhere but Israel. Mr. Shamir contends that that is fine because Israel needs immigrants. But Jewish organizations in the United States rightly object to Mr. Shamir's effort to persuade Americans to change their traditions to suit Israel's interests. Soviet Jews ought to decide where they want to go for themselves.

For the moment, the debate is academic. From a peak of 51,320 in 1979, the exodus of Soviet Jews has plunged to a meager 914 in 1986. Persistent rumors of liberalization have proved as barren as recent "reforms" in emigration policies. In practice, these make it harder for Soviet Jews to leave. Yet Moscow has opened the doors before to win good will and may do so again.

Soviet law and Israeli policy treat being Jewish as an individual's primary attribute. Under Soviet law, Jewishness is deemed a nationality and is so listed on identity pa-

pers. People of no other religion are thus stigmatized. In a similar vein, Israeli law and policy hold Israel to be a Soviet Jew's only true homeland. Yet the majority of departing Soviet Jews have chosen to go to the United States.

For Israel, this has meant embarrassment and the loss of much needed infusions of population. Hence Mr. Shamir recently asked Secretary of State George Shultz to deny refugee status to Soviet Jews. That would mean that they could come to the United States only as immigrants from Israel, subject to Israel's quota.

It is a bad idea. As a practical matter, relatives of 200,000 Soviet Jews already in America would face a new obstacle to family reunification — the long waiting line in Israel. There is something distasteful about suggesting that America bend its laws and traditions to spare Israel the discomfort of seeing Soviet Jews settle elsewhere. From Israel's own vantage, it is a dubious idea to appear to validate the Soviet belief that Jews are not adherents of a religion but members of an indigestible minority with dual loyalties, the classic equation of classic anti-Semitism.

Mr. Shamir's timing is, to put it gently, clumsy, coming smack on the heels of Israeli involvement in the Iran-contra affair and the Pollard spy trial. As Israel summons up the courage to acknowledge mistakes on these matters, it would be wise to do so on the emigration of Soviet Jews as well.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Two Bombs in South Asia?

When Pakistan's chief nuclear scientist appeared to confirm that his country had developed a nuclear bomb, he triggered a series of predictable reactions. In India, the disclosure was greeted as proof that its neighbor and regional competitor now had a nuclear capability. In the Soviet Union, which has cherished a "special relationship" with India for many years, the apparent confirmation of Pakistan's nuclear capability was also seen as a mark of hostile intent.

Whatever suspicions may be raised highlight once again the fears of existing nuclear powers about what could happen if a nuclear capability were to be acquired by "irrespon-

— The Times (London).

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OPINION



First he woke up in the middle of the service to find that the sermon was about AIDS. Then you started passing out condoms, and Mr. Ogilthorpe became disoriented.

Two Years On, Gorbachev Faces Growing Resistance

By Marshall I. Goldman

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts — Mikhail Gorbachev completes his second year in power Wednesday. He has attracted so much attention that he seems more like a movie star.

There are some strong indications that he is encountering widespread opposition. Some American specialists like Jerry Hough doubt this, arguing that he is relatively secure. How real is his opposition?

Since October 1982, shortly before Leonid Brezhnev's death, 70 percent of the members of the Politburo and 40 percent of the members of the Central Committee have been replaced. Not all of these replacements necessarily support Mr. Gorbachev, but they should provide him with a comfortable political base.

The Gorbachev reforms have been welcomed by most of the Soviet intelligentsia. They seem elated by the release of Andrei Sakharov from exile, the freeing of many dissidents from prison and the easing of censorship.

But by no means does Mr. Gorbachev have a free hand. The Soviet press carries daily criticism of life in the Ukraine, indicating that Mr. Gorbachev wants to remove Vladimir Shcherbitsky, the party chief there. But thus far he has had no success. Mr. Gorbachev has complained that he had to postpone the January meeting of the Central Committee three times because of opposition to his proposals. When the Central Committee Plenum was finally held, his bold calls for secret balloting and multicandidate elections for party and government positions was ultimately nullified in a final report.

Mr. Gorbachev's problem is that the very things that win him support from the intelligentsia engender opposition from other parts of society. And an expanding circle of vested interests is affected by the unprecedented scope of these measures. Nor is there any indication that Mr. Gorbachev plans to slow down to consolidate his position. It is as if he has decided to offend almost everyone at once and hope the shock immobilizes them.

The evidence points to these major sources of opposition to reforms:

• The bureaucratic. Officials in party and state organizations are distressed. To them, the call for election is equivalent to abolishing tenure in U.S. universities — a threat to those who had taken the future for granted.

• The military. Soviet defense officials resent what they see as their downgrading. Although Viktor Chebrikov, the head of the KGB, is a full member of the Politburo (as was Defense Minister Dmitri Ustinov), the current defense minister, Sergei Sokolov,

is only a nonvoting member. Reportedly there has been grumbling about a secret Gorbachev speech in Minsk in May 1983, in which he criticized military cost overruns and threatened to cut defense spending. The generals also have complained about Mr. Gorbachev's moratorium on atomic weapons testing and about his new arms proposals.

• The workers. For them, reforms have meant only more work and in-

convenience, while food and housing supplies remain as poor as ever. Workers also complain that Mr. Gorbachev has begun to institute shift work, disrupting family life. And he has tightened quality requirements so that if output does not pass inspection, workers are not paid. These procedures are said to have provoked riots at the big truck plant on the Kama River, a tributary of the Volga.

• The ideologues. Soviet conserva-

tives are stunned by what they consider a rejection of fundamental tenets of communism. For instance, after a 50-year absence, capitalist businessmen are being welcomed into the Soviet Union as partners in joint ventures. And beginning May 1, a new decree will legitimate the operation of private business.

Criticism of the reforms has appeared in the press. A reporter for Trud, the trade union paper, asked whether it is necessary to involve capitalists in developing the Soviet economy. He asked: "Will this not make us dependent on capitalist states?"

The conservatives are said to have insisted on a crackdown against illegal private activity before they would agree to any legitimization of private trade. The KGB's roughing up of protesters in Moscow is also a conservative reaction. A Soviet newspaper's decision not to publish an interview with Andrei Sakharov is another.

For most conservatives there are already too many signs of liberalization. They worry that this lax atmosphere may spawn dangerous social upheaval, as presaged by the recent riot in Kazakhstan and another in Moscow by 500 high school students.

Relations to reduce censorship; and to diminish bureaucratic control.

These reforms would devolve considerable authority to local work places, soviets, unions, theaters, editorial offices and the like. The new system would still be subject to Communist Party domination, but it would constitute a substantial decentralization and liberalization, and therefore a fundamental de-Stalinization of the Soviet system.

The first effort to reform the Stalinist system, under Nikita Khrushchev from 1953 to 1964, achieved important successes. Mass terror was ended, state and party controls were relaxed, and debates about more far-reaching change were permitted. But Khrushchev's reforms stopped far short of challenging the basic Stalinist structure or principle of statist control over society.

That such a reformation is the goal of Mr. Gorbachev and his supporters is confirmed by their demand for "a deep restructuring of the entire system."

Calling upon Lenin's NEP for inspiration and legitimacy, their indictment of Stalinism exceeds anything previously allowed.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Gorbachev's call for a new way of governance has collided with powerful interests and attitudes. The Central Committee plenum in January endorsed much less than Mr. Gorbachev proposed, despite his apparent threat to resign.

His hope seems to be that reformers eventually can erode conservative attitudes that form the most widespread obstacle to change. Here, too, Mr. Gorbachev is in direct conflict with the Stalinist era. Viewed in this context, his campaign for glasnost, or openness, in the media, which has pitted his way of "new thinking" against Stalinist dogmas, is his most important achievement so far.

Mr. Gorbachev and his supporters now say the full reformation they seek will require decades. Increasingly, they speak of the need to find ways "to make the process of change irreversible." These words reflect the scope of their anti-Stalinist purpose and the resistance it is meeting.

All this demands a clearer understanding of what Mr. Gorbachev represents. And we must at least consider the historic possibility of a new kind of relationship with the Soviet Union.

The writer is professor of politics at Princeton University and a frequent commentator on Soviet affairs.

By Stephen F. Cohen

PRINCETON, New Jersey — Two years after Mikhail Gorbachev became leader, it is clear that he represents the possibility of historic change. The reforms he is proposing, if fully implemented, would greatly reduce the monopolistic system of state control created by Stalin. This possibility explains Mr. Gorbachev's call for "revolutionary transformations" and the intense resistance it has aroused on many levels.

The importance of the struggle cannot be understood apart from the history of the Stalinist system. A much less encompassing kind of Communist rule existed in the 1920s, during the era of Lenin's New Economic Policy, or NEP. It was characterized by limited state intervention in society: a market economy in which a large private sector competed with nationalized enterprises; a vigorous cultural and intellectual life; and a significant degree of open debate in the political institutions.

All of these features were abolished in the 1930s by Stalin's draconian policies of collectivization, industrialization and mass terror. They were re-

placed by a vast, hypercentralized bureaucratic state demanding absolute control over almost every social undertaking. The Stalinist system turned a backward peasant country into a world power, but its continued survival has long been viewed by many Soviet citizens as anachronistic.

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IN OUR PAGES, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1912: President Yuan

PEKING — The great event today [March 10] was the installation of Yuan-Shih-Kai as Provisional President of the Republic of China. The ceremony took place in the new Wu-Pu [Foreign Office] building. Yuan-Shih-Kai entered the hall, the assembly bowing to him. He read from a document the oath of fidelity. Thereupon the chief Nanking representative advanced, received the document and made a reply. The President responded, reading again, and the ceremony was completed. Two Grand Lamas advanced and presented two golden Buddhas, covered with the ceremonial cloth called "hata," which bears the character of a tribute to the "supreme earthly chief." Yuan-Shih-Kai, taking up the "hata" and scarves, placed them around the necks of the Lamas, which was equivalent to saying he is the sovereign.

When I told the current press ombudsman, Thorsten Karls, that the United States such coverage might lead to a lynching, he said, "Oh, we're too quiet for that."

And so, with all of its freedom, is the Swedish press. I'll take the noisy, less disciplined American version of freedom of the press. Universal Press Syndicate.

Gorbachev's Real Test Is Afghanistan

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — Mikhail Gorbachev understands that the Soviet Union pays a price in the world for abuses of human rights. The end of Andrei Sakharov's exile and the release of some important political prisoners were, at a minimum, gestures to the opinions of mankind

OPINION

The Open Question About Reagan

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON — An elderly actor has said, "I'm now at an age when I've got to prove that I'm just as good as I never was." Rex Harrison's jest is Ronald Reagan's task. He has begun with his stock speech last Wednesday, which was stocked with the required moral, tactical and strategic categories.

There was the language of moral responsibility. There was tactical shrewdness. (In Washington, the best way to change the subject is to change the furniture, meaning the personnel.) And there was the strategic recognition that the open question — opened by his recent behavior — concerns the sufficiency of his energies, his intellectual and emotional application more than his physical stamina.

Alexander Hamilton, the founding father most relevant to the realities of the modern American state, stressed the sovereign importance of "energy in the executive." Mr. Reagan's understanding of that may still be insufficient. The disquieting passage in his speech was his assertion that ransoming hostages resulted because he asked too many questions about hostages.

He certainly asked the wrong questions. He did not question the assumptions of the entire Iran initiative or the wisdom of its advocates. Worse, his diagnosis of his failure — too many of the wrong questions — suggests an essentially passive presidential function, the questioning of others' initiatives. Until he decides to be more of an initiator, rather than a mere inquisitor, he will not be "just as good as he never was."

Mr. Reagan never was the irresistible force he once appeared to be because the Democratic Party was such a movable object. His electoral record and early legislative victories led to hyperbole. And now Washington, reversing form, is saying that his shortcomings validate, retroactively, all the confessions of the intelligentsia.

The apotheosis of Howard Baker is but the freshest evidence that too much winter has unhinged judgment in Washington. How else explain the apparent conviction that the White House chief of staff, occupying a position that a generation ago had not yet congealed from accumulated functions, is now the crucial variable in the equation of government?

Mr. Baker is one of Washington's grown-ups and will accept adulation in the spirit that Jack Benny accepted an award: "I don't deserve this but then I have arthritis and I don't deserve that either." Such giddiness as Baker-mania is as American as (a sage has said) French toast and English muffins. But it obscures a fact: The government is energized, if at all, from the Oval Office, not from down the hall.

I could be accused of worshiping at Mr. Baker's shrine. He was my presidential choice in 1980. But it is preposterous to think that his White House presence is much more than the negative guarantee that outright lunacy will not again flourish within the White House fence.

Avoidance of lunacy is an insufficient agenda. Mr. Baker's genius blossomed when, as Senate majority leader, he was handed Mr. Reagan's agenda. Mr. Reagan's

task today is to hand him another agenda. The president should not just settle for the theatricality of summity and the superstition of arms control, two vices by which presidents, unlike the nation, prosper.

His recruitment of Mr. Baker shows that conservatism is coming of age by acknowledging that government is a dignified, demanding profession. Mr. Reagan, who used to ridicule the "Washington buddy system," now knows that people like Mr. Baker, who is everybody's buddy, come in handy.

When Republicans are in their bluff-towel-snapping, locker-room mood, they sound too much the way the White House's fallen cowboys, Oliver North and such, sounded in conversations reported by the Tower commission. The cowboys' self-congratulatory exchanges reek of contempt for people who practice the patience demanded by democracy and who accept the procedural accommodations required by anything as orderly as government.

Now, assuming that the Oliver Norths have been removed from the precincts of power, is it too much to hope that their journalistic equivalents can be sedated?

A wit has said that everything in newspapers is true except reports of events about which one has personal knowledge. I know

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**How History Will Treat Reagan (and Two of His Predecessors)**

I read with dismay and befuddlement Bernard Weinraub's report, "Nancy Reagan to Continue Active Role" (March 4). One reason put forth for her intrusiveness in affairs of state was her "awareness that this scandal could tarnish" President Reagan's "name in history."

Has it occurred to no one in or around the White House that this obsession with Mr. Reagan's "place in history" could be one of the primary reasons for his current predicament? Leaders become historical figures by their presence and involvement in the realities of their day, by their unflattering efficiency and attentiveness to quality.

ROBERT C. HUMMEL,
Nice.

President and Mrs. Reagan are reported to be concerned about Mr. Reagan's place in history. Well, I can tell them — he will go down as the greatest mass hypnotist since Hitler. Even now, if one can believe the polls, half of all Americans believe that Mr. Reagan is a strong leader and doing a good job, when the rest of the world knows he has single-handedly brought the United States into ridicule and to moral and financial bankruptcy.

"Cometh the hour, cometh the man," they say. Where on America's vast horizon is he to be found? America and the world need a new Harry Truman.

R.H. LLOYD,
Hong Kong.

Regarding the New York Times editorial "Privileged Diplomacy" (Feb. 9):

The Times expresses concern about "a deep and dangerous dimension to the Iran-contra crisis: privatized diplomacy," and rightly points out that a president needs neither the State Department nor Congress to carry out such a policy. How far have the tentacles of corruption reached? We may never know, but I wonder why the editorialist failed to state unequivocally that as long as it is "unclear who got the money," any reform steps have little chance to succeed.

FLORENCE HEIST,
Ojbyen, Sweden.**It Isn't 'Light to the Gentiles'
Or Even Bright for Most Jews**

By Jacob Neusner

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island — Where, really, is it better to be a Jew? Apart from some fine fiction, Israeli art and creative life have made only a slight impact on American Jews. They do not look to Tel Aviv for stimulation or for imagination. And throughout the Jewish world, people do look to America.

Then what about Jewish scholarship? There, at least, from the Hebrew-speaking

MEANWHILE*This is the second of two articles.*

country, should come light and insight. In fact, Jerusalem is no "light to the gentiles" or even to the Jews.

The poorly kept secret is that except in a few areas of natural strength, such as the archaeology of Israel or Hebrew language studies, Israeli scholarship is pretty dull. After Martin Buber, not a single major Israeli thinker has made a mark outside the intellectual village of Jerusalem. After Gerhard Scholem, not a single Israeli scholar in the study of Judaism has won any audience outside of Israel. They have human lessons to teach us all.

No historians, no philosophers in Judaic studies have a hearing overseas. Israeli scholarship boasts no social scientists working on Jewish materials in a way that interests anyone but Jews. Israeli scholarship in Judaic studies is provincial, erudite, unimaginative and unproductive.

And everywhere in the Jewish world,

Jewish scholarship produced in the United States is read. Books of Jewish history, religion, literature and philosophy written by Jewish Americans appear in all European languages. American Jewish theologians led in the Jewish-Christian ecumenical movement. Israelis take a second place.

Then what about living in the state of Israel to recharge our Jewish batteries? It has wonderful hotels, great scenery, first-rate tours, and Jewish everything.

Beyond that, world Jewry has voted with its feet. When the Algerian Jews were driven out of Algeria, the French offered them the same settlement aid to go to Haifa or Lyon. Most chose France. When Soviet Jews leave for the West, some choose Israel. Most do not. More Israelis live in the United States than in Jerusalem.

What about the political change that Israel has brought about for world Jewry? No doubt, the sight of a Jewish state defending Jewish lives moves us all. If only it had come a decade sooner!

Israelis tell us that they have made the Jewish people independent for the first time in 2,000 or more years; not only is there a Jewish state now, but the Jewish people, as a political entity, are able to dictate their own fate and future.

Would that it were so! In fact the state of Israel is a client state, not Sparta or Athens, either. Having priced itself out of independence in economic terms, and because of recurring wars, the state of Israel depends

The writer, a rabbi, teaches Judaic studies at Brown University. He contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

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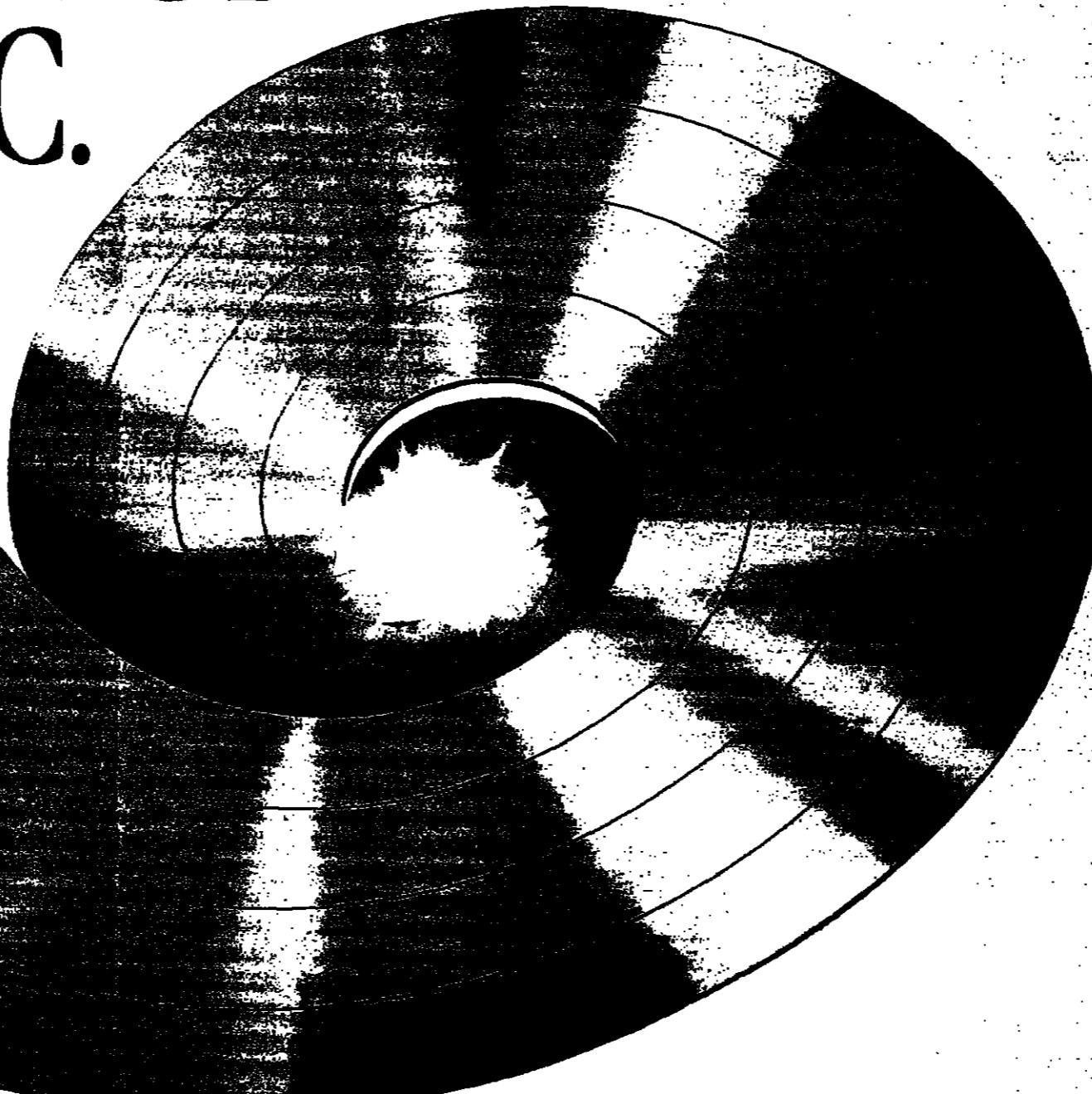
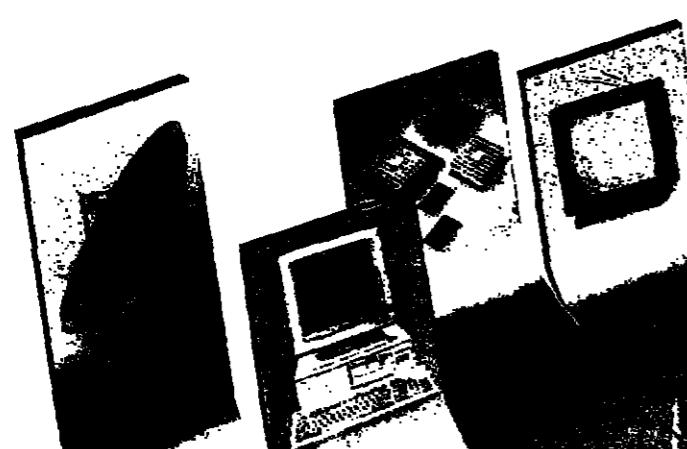
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Check, Checkmate in the Pacific

Soviet Fleet Grows, but U.S. Still Holds Balance of Power

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Despite a sustained buildup since 1968 that led the United States to warn of impending Soviet superiority, Soviet naval power in the Pacific still lags behind that of the United States, according to American and allied officials.

The officials said, however, that Moscow would continue to vigorously try to close the gap and that this would impose heavier military obligations on U.S. allies in the region, especially Japan.

The United States has formal defense agreements with five Pacific countries: Japan, South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines and Australia. It has routine access to bases and communications facilities in Japan, Korea, the Philippines and Australia.

U.S. and Australian officials differed sharply in their view of the significance of Soviet access to air and naval base at Cam Ranh Bay and other military facilities in Vietnam. This has been one of the most highly publicized extensions of the Soviet military presence in the Asia-Pacific region in the past few years.

Admiral Ronald J. Hays, commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said recently that the Soviet Union had developed a potent, nuclear-capable strike force and "a full-support operating base" at Cam Ranh Bay since they started using it in 1979.

This was "the second most dramatic change in the strategic equation" in the Asia-Pacific area, he asserted, since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan eight years ago. At Cam Ranh Bay, according to

Admiral Hays, the Soviet Union usually has 20 to 25 surface warships, three to five submarines, a squadron of MiG-23 fighter planes, a squadron of Badger bombers, some long-range maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare planes, a naval infantry unit and surface-to-air missiles.

But Bill Hayden, Australia's foreign minister, said last week that he had been told by Eduard A. Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, that the Soviet naval presence in Cam Ranh Bay was at a low level.

Mr. Hayden said the statement by Mr. Shevardnadze, who is in Indochina this week for talks with Laotian, Cambodian and Vietnamese leaders, was "incontestable."

And Kim C. Beazley, Australia's defense minister, told Parliament in Canberra on Feb. 26 that the Soviet Union did not deploy "front-line" ships or submarines in Vietnam.

Soviet planes at Cam Ranh Bay, he said, were "lined up like 10 green bottles hanging on the wall" and the base would not survive for more than a day in a war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

"The true significance" of the Soviet presence at Cam Ranh Bay, he said, was the political influence it gave Moscow in the region, rather than military capacity.

Alvin H. Bernstein, chairman of the Department of Strategy at the U.S. Naval War College, said expansion and modernization of the Soviet fleet had made Moscow's geopolitical position in Asia, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean "sub-

stantially stronger" than two decades ago.

Mr. Bernstein, who is in Singapore this week on a lecture tour, noted that since 1965 the Soviet Pacific fleet had nearly doubled in size to more than 800 ships and was now the largest of the four fleets in the Soviet Navy.

The size of the Soviet fleet, he said, did not match the superior quality of U.S. naval forces in the Pacific, and was unlikely to do so soon.

One reason Moscow valued access to Cam Ranh Bay, Mr. Bernstein said, was that the Soviet Pacific fleet, from its three main bases in Siberia, could only reach the open sea through relatively narrow straits that either froze in winter or lay between Japan and South Korea and were patrolled by hostile forces.

The Australian defense minister said that over the last six years the United States had "considerably increased its maritime power and I believe effectively checkmated any position that the Soviet Union had developed in the Pacific."

The figure of 800 for the Soviet Pacific fleet, Mr. Beazley said, included tugs, river craft and coastal auxiliaries. The U.S. Pacific fleet, he said, had 102 major surface warships, 20 more than the Soviet Union.

Admiral Hays said U.S. forces benefited from a network of alliances, were better trained than their Soviet counterparts and had a "technological edge," although this gap was closing.

The Soviet fleet was strong in submarine operations, he said, and long-range bombers carrying long-



UNION PROTEST IN SYDNEY — Thousands of Australian union members in Sydney protesting on Tuesday a raise of \$10 a week announced for seven million workers as inadequate. Employer and business groups, which had asked the government to put a freeze on wages to help combat inflation, also derided the new wage increase.

range missiles presented "a new dimension in the Pacific, one for which we are inadequately prepared at this time."

Robert O'Neill, director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, said that the United States continued to be in a stronger position than the Soviet Union in the Pacific and that it had to maintain control to protect its

allies and keep open lines of trade and communication. The striking power, range and quietness of Soviet submarines would continue to be improved, he said, and they would get better protection from aircraft based both at sea and on land.

"In short," he said, "the Soviet force structure in the Pacific will not look dramatically different in 10 years time but it will offer a steadily increasing challenge to the U.S. and its allies through greater capabilities."

In U.S., Skin Cancer Risk Rises at 'Epidemic' Rate

Scientists Link Increase to Depletion Of Earth's Protective Ozone Layer

By Cass Peterson
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Skin cancer is increasing in the United States at "a near epidemic rate," outrunning predictions made as recently as five years ago, a research physicist testified Monday before a House of Representatives panel examining threats to Earth's protective ozone layer.

About one in seven Americans will develop skin cancer in his or her lifetime, Dr. Darrel Rigel, before the New York University Medical Center told a House subcommittee on health and environment.

Malignant melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, "has increased 83 percent in the last seven years alone," he said. "Melanoma is increasing faster than any other cancer except lung cancer in women."

Most skin cancers can be detected easily and, if found early, are rarely fatal.

Five years ago, researchers estimated that the risk of developing malignant melanoma was about one in 250, and that the risk would reach one in 150 by the year 2000. According to Dr. Rigel, the risk has already exceeded that level and is now expected to be one in 90 by the end of the century.

"To our chagrin," he said, "we found our estimates were too conservative. Five years ago, it was unusual to see people under 40 with skin cancer. Now we often find it in people in their 20s."

Dr. Rigel joined other scientists in urging action to halt destruction of the stratospheric ozone layer, which screens out more than 99 percent of the harmful ultraviolet rays believed to cause most skin cancers.

Such calls have become increasingly urgent because of the recent discovery of a huge "hole" that appears for several months each year in the ozone layer over Antarctica. The finding alarmed scientists and public policy makers, who had predicted a much more gradual loss of ozone.

Susan Solomon, leader of a scientific team that measured ozone losses in Antarctica last autumn, said that researchers had not pinpointed the cause, but that "the best evidence" pointed to a class of industrial chemicals known as chlorofluorocarbons.

"I think we will eventually see large-scale depletion of the ozone layer at other latitudes," she said. "It's a question of when and how much."

Physicians have attributed the rising incidence of skin cancer to overexposure to the sun, partly because of the increased popularity of outdoor exercise in a society that equates tanned skin with health and vigor.

Rising concern over the health effects of ozone depletion has added urgency to international negotiations aimed at fashioning a global agreement on chlorofluorocarbon controls.

U.S. Says Envoy's Driver Sold Cocaine From Car

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The chauffeur for the Norwegian chief delegate to the United Nations sold cocaine by the pound from the ambassador's limousine, according to U.S. authorities.

They said Roland A. Vicera, 35, a Filipino, was arrested Monday afternoon as he drove in midtown Manhattan to deliver a pound (454 grams) of cocaine to undercover agents.

Two Colombians in the car also were arrested, according to Robert Strang, spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The car has diplomatic license plates but none of the men has diplomatic immunity, the spokesman said.

Ambassador Tom Vraalsen, his staff and the Norwegian government were not involved, Mr. Strang said.

The three were charged with possessing cocaine with the intent to sell it and conspiracy. Each offense is punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

Mr. Strang said Mr. Vicera had tried to get undercover agents to enter UN grounds to buy drugs, but the agents refused.

Sales Tax, Party Dissent Undermine Nakasone

By John Burgess
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Forecasts of Yasuhiro Nakasone's demise as prime minister have been heard many times. But it is generally agreed that during four and a half years in office, his control never has been less certain than at present.

Recent weeks have brought some unusual events in a system where politics normally unfolds by plan and schedule: a long parliamentary boycott, large opposition rallies and a revolt against the governing Liberal Democratic Party by some of its members and financial supporters.

This week brought news that a Socialist had defeated a candidate from the governing party by more than 2 to 1 in an election for a seat in the House of Councillors, the upper house of the Diet, Japan's parliament.

It was the first time a Socialist had won there since 1968. It was all the more humiliating because the loser was the wife of a Liberal Democrat who had died in office. In the family-oriented world of Japanese politics, she might have been a sure winner.

No one expects the Liberal Democrats, who have governed Japan for 32 years, to fall from power. The most that could happen is that another party figure would push out Mr. Nakasone. But the vote was seen as another sign of uncertainty over the government and Mr. Nakasone.

By any ordinary measure, Mr. Nakasone should be flying high. In July, he led the Liberal Democrats to the biggest election victory in their history. That prompted the party to break with tradition and give him a one-year extension in office.

But in the fall Mr. Nakasone began the politically trying task of tax reform. His government drafted a package of cuts in personal and corporate income taxes, to be roughly offset by a new 5-percent tax on receipts of businesses similar to Western Europe's value-added taxes.

The party debated the sales tax in unusual detail, recalling that a similar proposal in 1979 had been blamed for a major electoral defeat. The party sweetened it by exempting some businesses and in December approved it.

Normally, major decisions are made within the Liberal Democratic Party and the decision should have ended the debate. But in the Diet, things began to unravel.

No one protested the tax cuts, but critics said the sales tax would

slow economic growth, fuel inflation and increase paperwork and overhead intolerably.

Opposition politicians attacked with rare unity. They boycotted the lower house and its budget committee. They mobilized affiliated labor unions and otherwise organized opposition to the proposal.

The Japanese desire for consensus makes the governing party reluctant to roll over the opposition with its 304-vote majority in the lower house. Moving ahead without offending the opposition totally is one of the tests of a successful prime minister.

More troubling for Mr. Nakasone, however, has been dissent in his own ranks. One poll showed that only slightly more than half of the party's members in the Diet support it.

In Tokyo recently, two of the party's members appeared on the same stage with members of the Japan Communist Party at a rally against the tax.

Revolt also has stirred among some business groups that normally back the Liberal Democrats. The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, representing small businesses, has come out against it, as have department stores, transport companies and supermarkets.

Mr. Nakasone refuses to back down, saying the tax is crucial to financial modernization. He has rejected charges that it violates an election pledge not to enact a large-scale indirect tax. Last week he said it was only a "medium-scale" tax.

Since winning the extension of his term, Mr. Nakasone has never said when he will step down. There is talk in the press that he hopes to get another extension in October.

But if he was forced to withdraw the sales tax, some analysts say, the loss of prestige would force him to resign. Others see the package going through after some delay, with the proviso that its sponsor then will begin an honorable retirement.

Stoltenberg Appointed Oslo Foreign Minister

Reuters

OSLO — Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland has appointed Thorvald Stoltenberg as Norway's minister of foreign affairs, government officials said Monday.

Mr. Stoltenberg, who served as minister of defense in Mrs. Brundtland's previous Labor Party government, succeeds Knut Fjeldlund, who died last month.

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Tuesday's NYSE Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere.

12 Month High Low Stock DIV. Yld PE Sls. 100s High Low Close Chg.

(Continued)

	12 Month High	High	Low	Stock	DIV.	Yld	PE	Sls.	100s	High	Low	Close	Chg.
40 3600 Orange	2.3	2.3	2.1	77	220					100	98	98	-1/2
41 1700 Orient	4.2	4.2	3.9	212	100					100	98	98	-1/2
42 1700 PFC	7.6	7.7	7.2	75	12					100	98	98	-1/2
43 2200 ORIC	1.97	1.97	1.92	200	100					100	98	98	-1/2
44 2444 Orlac	4.19	4.19	4.02	200	100					100	98	98	-1/2
45 2000 Orlac	1.33	1.33	1.25	100	100					100	98	98	-1/2
46 2000 Orlac	1.33	1.33	1.25	100	100					100	98	98	-1/2
47 2000 Orlac	1.33	1.33	1.25	100	100					100	98	98	-1/2
48 2000 Orlac	1.33	1.33	1.25	100	100					100	98	98	-1/2
49 2000 Orlac	1.33	1.33	1.25	100	100					100	98	98	-1/2
50 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
51 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
52 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
53 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
54 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
55 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
56 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
57 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
58 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
59 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
60 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
61 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
62 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
63 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
64 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
65 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
66 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
67 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
68 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
69 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
70 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
71 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
72 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
73 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
74 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
75 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
76 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
77 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
78 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
79 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
80 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
81 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
82 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
83 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
84 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
85 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
86 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
87 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
88 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
89 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
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91 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
92 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
93 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
94 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
95 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
96 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
97 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
98 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
99 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
100 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
101 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
102 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
103 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
104 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
105 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
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107 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100					100	98	98	-1/2
108 1700 Oxford	1.3	1.3	1.2	248	100								

Iran Sells 25% Holding In Deutsche Babcock

FRANKFURT — Iran has sold a 25 percent stake in the engineering group Deutsche Babcock AG that it bought in 1975, a consortium of four West German banks said Tuesday.

The consortium leader, Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, said the banks would acquire 12.5 million shares from Iran's central bank and would sell them mainly to financial institutions in West Germany and abroad.

Shares in Deutsche Babcock, which specializes in building power stations and in environmental technology, fell 11.50 Deutsche marks (\$6.20) on the Frankfurt bourse on the news to close at 227 DM.

At that level, the Iranian stake would be worth 286 million DM. WestLB declined to say how much Iran was paid for the shares.

Share analysts said they believed Iran needed the cash to finance its war with Iraq after last year's fall in oil prices squeezed revenues. Iran bought the holding in Deutsche Babcock from the British firm Babcock & Wilcox in March 1975, when it was flush with oil dollars.

Ferruzzi Buys Up More of Montedison

RAVENNA, Italy — The Ferruzzi group said Tuesday that it had raised its stake in Montedison SpA, the chemicals group, to more than 37 percent from 27.6 percent.

Ferruzzi said it had increased its stake through the acquisition from the Varasi group of a 50.2 percent holding in Pafinvest, a Montedison shareholder, for about \$20 billion lire (\$245 million).

It said the stake acquired in Pafinvest was actually about 60 percent but would fall to 50.2 percent after the conversion of bond worth around 125 billion lire.

Ferruzzi said Pafinvest, controlled by Varasi through own 9.48 percent of Montedison's ordinary stock, Pafinvest also owns 1.2 percent of Montedison's nonvoting shares.

Montedison's chairman, Mario Schimberni, said earlier Tuesday that Ferruzzi had acquired additional shares in Montedison but that the transfer been effected without his knowledge.

Ferruzzi, Italy's largest agricultural concern, said the agreement included the acquisition by a Ferruzzi company, Amicoles Finanziaria SpA, of 50 percent of Pafinvest from the Varasi family holding company, Varasi will acquire an undetermined number of shares in Agrocola.

Enlarged USAir Forces TWA to Reconsider Bid

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Trans World Airlines indicated Tuesday it could scrap an attempt to acquire USAir Group Inc. because of USAir's \$1.59 billion agreement to buy Piedmont Aviation Inc.

In light of the merger agreement between USAir and Piedmont that was announced Monday, TWA is reassessing its strategy relating to its investment in USAir stock, TWA's general counsel, Mark Buckstein, said in a prepared statement. He would not elaborate.

The statement came shortly after a U.S. District Court judge in Pittsburgh extended until March 23 a temporary restraining order preventing TWA from acquiring additional USAir shares.

TWA, which has offered to buy USAir for \$1.65 billion, said Friday it owned 15 percent of the consortium's common stock.

It has already said that profit rose from a group net of \$2.1 million DM in 1984-85.

"I think the company's future prospects have improved so much" that the share placement "cannot hurt the price," an analyst at one of the consortium's banks said.

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As corporate chief financial officer, Mr. Rosenfeld succeeds Raymond L. Golden, 49, who has joined Trammel Crow Co., the Dallas real estate firm.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has named Lester C. Thurow, an economist, as dean of MIT's Sloan School of Management, succeeding Abraham J. Siegel, 64, who is returning to teaching and research.

The Sloan school differs from most business schools, Professor Thurow said Monday, in its close relationship with the rest of MIT and the resulting stress on technology.

Citing statistics that only about 30 percent of corporate managers have technological and production backgrounds, Professor Thurow, 48, told The New York Times, "If we have anything to offer, it is a manager with technical competence."

Born in the Montana copper country, the son of a Methodist minister, Professor Thurow is a graduate of Williams College, re-

ceived his master's degree at Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship and his Ph.D. at Harvard.

Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York has promoted Peter F. Culver to senior vice president. Mr. Culver, 42, will remain general manager in Brussels of the firm's clearing system for international securities trading. Morgan Guaranty says the system is the world's largest, with a \$2.3 trillion turnover last year.

General Motors Europe, headquartered in Zurich, has promoted John F. Smith Jr. to president, succeeding Ferdinand Beickler, who will retire from day-to-day management March 31 after 50 years with GM or GM-related companies. Mr. Beickler, 64, joined Opel as an apprentice in Rüsselsheim, Germany, in 1937. Mr. Smith, 48, has been executive vice president for operations and engineering at GM Europe since last year. Previously he had been president and general manager of General Motors of Canada Ltd.

Federated Department Stores Inc. of Cincinnati has promoted Norman S. Matthews, 54, from vice chairman to president and chief operating officer, its No. 2 title. Federated had left the post vacant since 1982, when Howard Goldfeder became chairman and chief executive.

Minstar Inc., the Minneapolis-based diversified energy and leisure products company, has promoted Kenneth J. Sevenson to president and chief operating officer. He had been president of Minstar Energy Services. Mr. Sevenson, 46, takes over as president from Irwin L. Jacobs, 45, who will remain chairman and chief executive. Mr. Jacobs is known for building Minstar through a series of hostile takeovers.

Salomon Appoints New Financial Chief

By Arthur Higbee
International Herald Tribune

Salomon Inc., the New York-based holding and financial services company, has promoted Gerald Rosenfeld to executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Mr. Rosenfeld, 41, had been managing director of the mergers and acquisitions department. He joined the firm in 1979.

In an additional and newly created post, Mr. Rosenfeld will be chief financial officer for Salomon Brothers, the firm's investment arm.

He also heads the Salomon Brothers capital commitments committee, which directs long-term financing, and will remain that post.

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THE EUROMARK
Prices Lower

LONDON — The dollar fell against most major currencies yesterday, ending at a record low of 1.6250 Swiss francs, as investors continued to sell off the U.S. currency.

Tuesday's OTC Prices

	NASDAQ PRICES	OTC PRICES
1. GOLD	\$1,000	\$1,000
2. SILVER	\$10.00	\$10.00
3. PLATINUM	\$100.00	\$100.00
4. COPPER	\$1.00	\$1.00
5. ALUMINUM	\$1.00	\$1.00
6. LEAD	\$1.00	\$1.00
7. IRON	\$1.00	\$1.00
8. COAL	\$1.00	\$1.00
9. IRON ORE	\$1.00	\$1.00
10. COKE	\$1.00	\$1.00
11. COAL	\$1.00	\$1.00
12. COKE	\$1.00	\$1.00
13. COAL	\$1.00	\$1.00
14. COKE	\$1.00	\$1.00
15. COAL	\$1.00	\$1.00
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22. COKE	\$1.00	\$1.00
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SPORTS

An Old Pro Remains Well Above the Game

International Herald Tribune
LONDON — There is a Mercedes in the driveway. And a Bentley. The house has tastefully restored Tudor elegance, the stables shelter a dozen racehorses.

Franny Lee, former professional soccer player, has made it. Yet this weekend, when English

ROB HUGHES

men clamor to FA Cup knockout matches, Francis Lee will not cross the threshold to watch. In the decade-plus since he was tenet-stage, since his supercharged energy communicated the thrill of the goal chase, Lee has drifted away from soccer. Today's game, with its emphasis on the physical, leaves him cold.

Like Edith Piaf, he has said he regrets nothing. Like Piaf, he poured pride and passion into performance. But where Piaf was a sparrow who clung to the bitter end, Lee always stockily filled out, could walk away before his vitality was sapped.

In doing so, in feeling no compulsion to look back, Lee breaks with family tradition. His father, and his father's father, would have sacrificed whatever it took to get FA Cup tickets.

There is irony in his defection. Lee was a big-match player. Bursting from the wing or down the middle, he thrived on the roar of the crowd. Shown a giant of silver, he became electrifying. Bolton Wanderers, Manchester City and Derby County were his stages in the league and cup, and he savored Wembley and Rio.

His is, on the one hand, an encouraging portrayal of a retired player — he's wealthy, wise, happy and his own boss. On the other hand, his disengagement is total.

He has tried, although seldom, to arouse a watcher's habit. He cut grass. With a local window cleaner he bought a second-hand truck and went into business salvaging waste paper to make toilet rolls.

"Sometimes I'd drive to Wales and do a 12-hour stint, finishing at 10 at night, tired and scrubby," he recalls. After Bolton sold him to Manchester City (for a 1967 record £60,000), there about £167,000, he saw that it was costing me £20 a week to entertain myself."

He cleaned gravestones. He cut grass. With a local window cleaner he bought a second-hand truck and went into business salvaging waste paper to make toilet rolls.

"I suppose I could have become a club director," Lee muses.

"But who needs all that hassle — the insults, fans kicking lumps out of your car — if the team isn't doing well?"



Franny Lee, left, at the 1970 World Cup: A mite spiteful in getting his retaliation in first.

by the change from game to busi-

ness boomed."

Still in demand, he abruptly quit soccer at 32. "I was so busy with my business," he says, "that I couldn't give football the time. I found myself kicked by bad players when, at my peak, even good players couldn't nail me."

Lee found a share in the Big

Business: "Every time I scored, busi-

ness boomed."

Not far Bolton had soured and stimulated him to look for re-

wards outside soccer. Besides, Saturdays are race days. The winter's enclosure vs. the soccer grandstand is no contest. Come

Sunday, he will ride out and

muck out, and maybe later go

indoors to switch on the Wimble-

ton-Tottenham Hotspur cup quar-

terfinal.

The match will bristle with chal-

lenge, one that might easily

become a vendetta. Tottenham is

still seeking after a league game last November during which John Fashanu, Wimbeldon's attri-

tional center-forward, con-

cussed and broke the shoulder of

George Stevens.

Stevens has just resumed play,

but Tottenham would be stupid to

go to Wimbeldon's tight, intimidat-

ing den looking for a fight. Rather it has the skills, the pace,

the pedigree to keep the ball on the

ground, to convince this world's

Francis Lee that class can triumph over unarmed combat.

There are several million of us

whose addiction has been diluted

by players who belt the ball up in

the air and then chase it with

brainpower that begins at the toes

and ends at the knees. There are

times, as Lee knows, when a man

can get more sense out of four

legged friends — and get more of

the kick of real excitement.

The Associated Press

Foreman Lumbers Back Onto Victory Trail

After several or eight rounds, I had

had my "tough" a couple of times. But I

didn't press him. Foreman said he

changed his strategy after a bruise

under his left eye, the result of an

overhand right in the first round,

started to swell after the third.

Said Zouski, whose left eye was

nearly closed and whose mouth was

bleeding: "The referee stopped it

because I wasn't throwing enough

punches. I was getting tired, but I

wasn't hurt."

The crowd started booing,"

said Foreman, "and I realized I

had better go for the knockout."

The end came when Foreman

jolted Zouski with a right to the

head, a left to the temple and an

other left to the cheek. Zouski started

backing wearily away as referee

Henry Elysper stepped in and

ended the fight.

Zouski, who last year was

knocked out in three rounds by

WBA-WBC champion Mike Tyson,

said "Foreman's strong, but his

punches don't have nearly the

snap of Tyson's. He had some great

power and he had good range.

He was hurting me from four or

five feet away."

Foreman, who won the Olympic

gold medal as a heavyweight 19

years ago, improved his record to

46-2 with 43 knockouts. He hadn't

fought since losing a 12-round de-

cision to Jimmy Young almost exac-

10 years ago. His only other

defeat came when he lost his

heavyweight crown to Muhammad

Ali in Zaire in October 1974 after

two successful defenses of the title

he took from Frazier.

He said he could have stopped

Zouski earlier, "but I wanted to go

to 25-11."

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The Associated Press

Lawn Tennis Will Return to Its Grass Roots

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The Associated Press

Figure Skating World Championships

(At Ciccarelli)

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OBSERVER

Rat Redemeems Miniseries

By Russell Baker
NEW YORK — By Wednesday night I was in agonies of suspense about the fate of Cutter Ambergrove. Would his worthless family drive a stake through his heart in that night's installment of "I'll Take Manhattan" or would he survive to see again?

The stake would end all hope that my parlor might someday glow with "Bride of I'll Take Manhattan," "Son of I'll Take Manhattan Meets Frankenstein" or "I'll Take Manhattan Meets Rocky XIV."

If you conclude from this that I was absolutely nuts about the CBS miniseries, you read me right. "I'll Take Manhattan" kept me glued to the screen from second installment to end.

My belief that watching a miniseries is the mark of an imbecile kept me from Sunday's opening episode. On Monday night, however, I entered the household television zone in search of Proust's "Remembrance of Things Past."

To let all imbeciles in the room know what I thought of the novel, I waved my copy of "Remembrance of Things Past" and said, "I shall be reading Proust in the kitchen."

Just at that instant, glancing at the screen I saw the face of evil incarnate. It was the face of Cutter Ambergrove, who was soon to prove himself one of the vilest human beings in the annals of hokum.

I was helpless. Cutter was embracing his incredibly dumb brother Zach and leering at Zach's incredibly beautiful wife, Lily. In a trice, or at least a four, Cutter's snake-like charm had turned Lily to jelly in his arms and flagrante delicto to had broken out all over the landscape.

It was not prudence that made me throw Proust aside and surrender to a plot that unfolded night after night with a predictability that numbed the mind; it was the villainy of Cutter Ambergrove.

Here was the pure, unadulterated, unmotivated, idiot villainy I remembered from childhood when the base Rudolph Rassendall used to keep tying the Beautiful Belinda to heavily trafficked railroad tracks in the "Hairbreadth Harry" comic strip.

"Hairbreadth" was a square-cut dumbskull with muscles who al-

ways arrived just before Old 97 could cut Belinda in three. Rassendall wore cad's clothing — high silk hat, black tailcoat — and had long mustaches perfect for twirling while cackling fiendishly.

Since then sociologists have sprung up among us, so we know that "Hairbreadth Harry" was about the abuse of the working classes (symbolized in Hairbreadth and Belinda) by the swells from uptown (symbolized by Rudolph in his upper-class rig).

Naturally, I began studying Cutter Ambergrove and his victims with an eye for social significance. How strange it was: the "Hairbreadth Harry" story had been reversed and Cutter, though ostensibly the villain, clearly symbolized a cruel Old Testament justice being visited upon the swells, all of whom were astoundingly rich people leading utterly empty lives.

Cutter the richest of all, his dim-witted brother Zach, who seems to be the nice guy of the tale until, probing deeper into the author's design, we realize that Zach is an abhorrent human specimen: a media tycoon without social conscience who treats his concubine cruelly and squanders his timeliness wealth on his family and himself.

The rest of his family, spoiled by the millions he has lavished on them, are a worthless gang who kill time in travel, incessant fornication, divorce proceedings, sitting in hot tubs and seeking novelties to put the zip back into adultery.

Into this monstrous mass of moral flabbiness comes fate's avenger, Cutter Ambergrove, the brilliant, unscrupulous, heartless destroyer. He can kill his brother for profit, promote his wife's suicide, then blackmail her grieving father.

He is the pure inhuman retribution of justice upon the idle rich. To avoid angering rich sponsors, he is cartooned as evil just as Rudolph Rassendall, the iron fist of death, was cartooned to soften his message.

CBS, bless its mercantile soul, did not drive the stake through Cutter's heart Wednesday night. May be soon return. He could make the miniseries respectable.

New York Times Service

By Stephanie Mansfield
Washington Post Service

NEWS YORK — Mel Gibson is on the edge of his seat, coiling his sinewy fingers around an imaginary threat.

"It was the last of my four films. I could have killed him. He didn't know how close he was."

Gibson, the 31-year-old Australian heartthrob dubbed the Dish From Down Under, smacks his fist into the palm of his hand. "He didn't know. He just had to press a couple of more buttons."

The ice-blue eyes flash with rage, the mouth tightens into a grimace. "I had to walk away."

He's not describing a scene in his latest film, "Lethal Weapon." He's recalling an encounter with a reporter from People magazine. The resulting profile landed a pretty-faced, pouty Gibson on the infamous cover with the legend "The Sexiest Man Alive."

He snorts. "My wife looked at it in horror. So did I."

So who is this laconic lad with the accent and the fluffed-out hair and baggy pants, cheerfully (well, sort of) plugging his latest film, a taut, highly commercial cop-and-robbers thriller with Gibson playing his best role in years as a borderline psychotic Vietnamese?

Can this be the same Mad Men?

Yukking it up with Joan Rivers on "The Late Show," flirting with Mary Hart on "Entertainment Tonight," juggling for

"The Sexiest Man Alive."

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